



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Contact:
Seth Blomeley, Communications Director
501-683-4788
seth.blomeley@arkansas.gov

MASTER PRINCIPALS FROM SPRINGDALE, WEST MEMPHIS, RUSSELLVILLE, AND SILOAM SPRINGS HONORED

Five principals were recognized Monday before the Arkansas State Board of Education as "master principals" after successfully completing three years of rigorous professional development and additional performance evaluations.

They are: Glenda Bryan of Avondale Elementary in West Memphis, Cynthia Covington of Allen Elementary in Siloam Springs, Dondi Frisinger of Walker Elementary in Springdale, Cathy Koch of Upper Elementary 5th Grade School in Russellville, and Cynthia Voss of Shaw Elementary in Springdale.

The five principals graduated from the Arkansas Leadership Academy's Master Principal Program, which is based in the University of Arkansas' College of Education and Health Professions.

"We understand how much work it is," Board Chairman Dr. Naccaman Williams told the principals. "Thank you. The product you are putting out pretty much speaks for itself. We understand how very important it is for principals to establish the learning culture in the classroom."

Arkansas Education Commissioner Tom Kimbrell congratulated them.

"This training above and beyond the licensing requirements for school administrators will indeed benefit these five principals and, even more importantly, the teachers and students in the schools where they serve," Kimbrell said.

The Master Principal program was authorized by Act 44 of the special legislative session on education in 2003-2004.

Master principals receive a \$9,000 a year bonus for five years.

Debbie Davis, director of the Leadership Academy, said since then there have been 17 designated as master principals.

Pictured in the enclosed photograph, left to right, are: Frisinger, Voss, Kimbrell, Covington, Bryan, and Koch.